

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes from the Fort Detrick Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting,
March 30, 2005

1. Index of Minutes

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2. Attendance

Members Present:

Lieutenant Colonel Donald Archibald, Director, SEIPO (Installation Co-Chair)
Ms. Linda Robinson, Community Member (Community Co-Chair)
Mr. Joe Gortva, Environmental Restoration Program Manager, SEIPO
Mr. Thomas Meyer, Project Manager, US Army Corps of Engineers,
Baltimore District
Ms. Helen Miller-Scott, Community Member
Mr. Douglas Scarborough, Restoration Oversight Manager, US Army Environmental
Center
Mr. Thomas Wade, Community Member
Dr. Gary T. Pauly Community Member
Dr. Henry Erbes, Community Member

Others Present:

Mr. James C. Eaton, Community Member
Mr. Dave Iseri, Shaw E & I
Mr. Keith Hoddinott, US Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine
Mr. Butch Dye, Maryland Department of Environment
Mr. Chris Devine, Fort Detrick Garrison Public Affairs Office
Mr. Doug Mayles, Analytical Services, Inc. (Recording Secretary)
Ms. Jean Byrd, Community Member

Members Absent:

Colonel John Ball, Commander, US Army Garrison, Fort Detrick
Mr. Robert Craig, Chief, Environmental Management Office
Mr. Charles Billups, Ph.D., Community Member
Mr. Larry Bohn, Frederick County Health Department
Mr. William Effland, Ph.D., Community Member
Mr. Michael Kurtianyk, Community Member
Mr. Paul Offutt, Program Manager, Frederick County Health Department
Mr. Dennis Orenshaw, US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Region III
Mr. Gerald Toomey Community Member
Mr. Stewart Taylor, Community Member
Mr. Craig Toussaint, Community Member
Mr. Daniel J. Patton, Community Member
Mr. Curtis DeTore, Maryland Department of Environment

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3. Meeting Opening

Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Donald Archibald convened the meeting at 7:40 p.m., on Wednesday, March 30, 2005 at 718 Porter Street, Fort Detrick, Maryland.

4. Opening Remarks

LTC Archibald welcomed meeting attendees and expressed Colonel Ball's regret that he could not attend. LTC Archibald discussed Colonel Ball's desire to attend the next RAB meeting as it will be his last as the Fort Detrick Deputy Installation Commander.

Ms. Robinson introduced Mr. James Eaton as an invited guest and encouraged other RAB members to continue their outreach efforts in inviting members of the community to attend RAB meetings.

LTC Archibald announced the recognition of Ms. Helen Miller-Scott for her work and active participation as a RAB member. LTC Archibald presented Ms. Miller-Scott with a certificate of appreciation from the Fort Detrick Environmental Restoration Program for her contributions to the installation restoration program.

Ms. Jean Byrd introduced herself as community member and first-time RAB meeting attendee interested in the Fort Detrick restoration program.

5. Area A Update

Mr. Tom Meyer presented an overview of Areas A, B, and C for first-time attendees not familiar with the installation restoration program. Mr. Joseph Gortva presented a brief review of the Area A restoration effort including details on the trichloroethylene (TCE) spill near Building 568, which resulted in groundwater contamination. The restoration effort consists of using an existing groundwater production well to pump and treat the groundwater prior to its use in aquaculture research. The effect of which is a groundwater drawdown, which keeps the plume of contamination from going off-post at levels in excess of the Maximum Contaminate Level (MCL).

6. Area A Water Levels

Nothing to report.

7. Area B Update

Area B-Grid, B-Skeet, B-Ammo, and B-20 North work plans were completed in December 2004. The Area B-1 closeout document is signed and will go into the public

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record repository. The projected completion of Area B-Grid, B-Skeet, B-Ammo, and B-20 closeout documents is October 2005.

A brief history of Area B sites was given for the benefit of first-time meeting attendees. December 2004 groundwater quarterly sampling occurred and March 2005 groundwater quarterly sampling is ongoing. Subsequent tasks following this quarterly sampling event will occur under the Performance Based Contract (PBC). Soil sampling was completed for Area B-Grid, B-Skeet, B-Ammo, and B-20, the results of which should be available at the next RAB meeting.

Area B TCE concentration results are consistent with levels found in the previous round of sampling, with the exception of monitoring well MW-58D. Results from this well have fluctuated in the past. The cause of this fluctuation is currently unknown.

Fort Detrick is currently working on a formal proposal to request permission to sample the Robinson pond. A discussion took place of the existence of a hand dug well near the Robinson pond on the Meadows' property.

Area B PCE Concentrations at the perimeter of the plume are generally equivalent to recent sampling events including September 2004. By the next RAB meeting, data should be back from the interior groundwater monitoring well samples in Area B.

Five residential water wells were sampled north of Area A at the request of property owners. Four of these were tested twice due to cross-contamination concerns. The final validated results showed no contaminant detection at these locations with the exception of methylene chloride, which is attributed to laboratory contamination. Offering to sample these residential wells was a proactive approach by Fort Detrick to alleviate community concerns and was not associated with restoration documentation or plans.

8. Area B Water Levels

Current groundwater elevations are similar to September 2004. Monitoring well MW-17 is usually dry, but is currently available for sampling due to the recent increase in groundwater elevations.

9. Area C Update

The draft final Feasibility Study (FS) will be available to the RAB soon. Army and regulator sign-off has occurred. The synopsis of this document is that no further action will be taken and institutional controls will be put in place. The FS should be finalized in April 2005.

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A discussion was held on the future of the water treatment and wastewater treatment plants ability to meet new regulations and additional customers in the future.

10. Performance Based Contract

Mr. Dave Iseri presented information pertaining to the PBC. Shaw is currently sampling wells and surface water in Area B to complete the Remedial Investigation (RI) by the end of December 2005. The Area B Phase III RI work plan was completed in January 2005. Sampling for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and biodegradation products in Area B were discussed.

Polyethylene Diffusion Bags (PDBs) are being tested for use in Area B groundwater sampling. The PDBs bags are filled with deionized water and placed three at a time into each monitoring well at three different elevations. Groundwater diffuses into these bags over time and achieves equilibrium. After two weeks the PDBs are removed and samples are drawn. If the PDBs prove to be effective, they will be used for future groundwater sampling saving time and money.

Area B-18 is the oldest disposal site in Area B and its location has been changed to a sinkhole area northwest of the original location. Debris was observed in this near area where disposal is likely to have occurred. The partnering team is determining the next step for this site.

The RI for disposal areas is scheduled to be completed in December 2005. The FS is scheduled for completion in August of 2006 and the proposed plan and decision document in February 2007 and April 2007 respectively. The disposal area remedial action is scheduled for completion in February 2008. The remedy selection approval process is required to follow the CERCLA process.

A discussion was held on contract funding and contractor payment.

11. RAB Issues and Membership

Mr. Joseph Gortva opened a discussion on ways to increase RAB membership. Mr. Chris Devine of the Fort Detrick Public Affairs Office (PAO) discussed marketing efforts for the RAB including attendance at Frederick 101 and Neighborhood Association Committee (NAC) meetings where he discusses the RAB along with other Fort Detrick items. The PAO issued a press release pertaining to the RAB and one person attending this meeting came as a result of this press release.

A letter to the editor of the Frederick News-Post on the future growth at Fort Detrick was discussed. This letter mentioned concerns about the restoration program at Fort Detrick.

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The group thought a RAB member's response to this letter addressing restoration concerns would be a good idea.

It was discussed that Hood College participants may have an interest in attending and Mr. Gortva will follow-up on this.

Radio was discussed as an outreach option for the group and paired participation from an Army representative and a RAB member in an interview format show will be explored further. The group discussed putting together a RAB information package including fact sheets. Marketing of the RAB and installation environmental programs at upcoming Earth Day events was discussed.

12. Open Comments

The group individually introduced itself for the benefit of first-time meeting attendees.

The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for TCE and PCE was stated to be five parts per billion as Mr. James Eaton questioned what this information was.

Dr. Henry Erbes discussed the Area B-3 landfill and a deed restriction associated with the Fort Detrick sanitary landfill. This deed restriction may impact restoration areas in the vicinity of the sanitary landfill that are included in cells two and three of the sanitary landfill. Cells two and three are in the plan for future landfill use, but are currently not developed.

LTC Archibald discussed the following Fort Detrick issues. The newly established Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) field post at Fort Detrick will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, April 20, 2005 where low impact development will be discussed. Fort Detrick has received approval from the state to deposit its wastewater treatment plant sludge into the Fort Detrick sanitary landfill. This should begin in the next few weeks. The National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) building is projected to break ground in the next few weeks. The National Biodefense Analysis Countermeasures Center (NBACC) Environmental Impact Statement is complete. This project will move into the building design phase and is projected to be operational in 2008. The last item of discussion was on a future cogeneration energy plant for the future biodefense campus.

13. Date of Next Meeting

RAB meetings are held bimonthly on the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 2, 2005, at 7:30 p.m., at Fort Detrick, Building 810, Conference Room 3.

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14. Meeting Closing

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 p.m.

//Signed//

Reviewed by:

Donald F. Archibald
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Co-Chairman

//Signed//

Approved/Disapproved

John E. Ball
Colonel, US Army
Deputy Installation Commander

Enclosures:

Fort Detrick Installation Restoration Program Handout
Fort Detrick Performance Based Contract (PBC) Handout

DISTRIBUTION:

Each RAB Member (w/o enclosure)
Each Meeting Attendee (w/o enclosure)